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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Thomas, Richard A.

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 7, 2006, entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.